

New Mills Primary School
Newsletter No. 9
Friday 27 June 2025



Dear Parents,

We are just over half way through the final half term and life in school is incredibly busy!! Children are preparing for plays, visits and visitors are in abundance, reports are being written, the fair is tonight and transition is always on our minds. This is always a special time of year, we are getting ready for everyone to step up, we're preparing the oldest children to move on and already meeting the new children in Reception.

Stepping Up day

On Thursday 4th July, the Y6 children visit the high school so it is a great day for everyone to step up to their new classes. There are minimal changes this year:

- Mrs Arnfield – Y6
- Mrs Broadley – Y5
- Mrs Williams – Y4
- Mrs Shepley – Y3
- Mrs Adams – Y2
- Mrs Coen – Y1
- Miss Chappell – Reception

Miss Heywood will be on maternity leave from early September

Children should come into school through their new classroom door and go straight to their new class. The staff are really looking forward to meeting their new classes.

Carol Taylor – Head teacher

Library

This is developing nicely. We have ordered the new furniture. The PTA have been instrumental in getting this completed. If you're having a sort out, please keep any relatively new books for us, they will be gratefully received on when we return to school ☺

Pencil Cases

From September, we will be providing all the children in KS2 with a pencil case and all the equipment they need. Everything will be labelled ready for a fresh start.

Sports Day

Sports Day was a wonderful experience. Thank you very much for all the support you gave throughout the day, I hope you enjoyed spending time with your little ones. Sue Fisher did a wonderful job of organising and running the whole day – Well Done and Thank You!

Outdoor Play & Learning (OPAL)

We are working with OPAL to make changes to our provision at breaks and lunch times. We have the most amazing space and we need to make the maximise its use. We are going to start with short questionnaires for children, parents and staff. We would like to collect your views so that we can listen to what is going well and what could be doing differently. OPAL has its own website and there are You Tube links at the bottom of the home page that are well worth watching.

NEW - School Dinners online through Parent Pay

We will be changing the way dinners will be paid for starting in September. Parents will need to book and pay for the dinners online through parent pay. **Therefore all debts will need to be cleared before any dinners can be booked.** If this is going to be an issue, please email Mrs Taylor – ctaylor@newmills-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk We will issue more information soon about the change. Thank you.

Recycling in School

Just a reminder that we recycle used stamps, batteries & small printer cartridges. We also have a clothing recycling bin (all clothes must be bagged & shoes paired together.) No duvets or bedding. Thank you

After School Clubs

Monday – Being Outdoors Forest School & Art Club

Tuesday – **NO drama club this term**

Thursday – Sports Club (KS2) – multi-sports this term. This is a great opportunity for children to try new sports with their friends. New club- on Mondays, Rachel Andrews is delivering an Art Club for children. Rachel is one of our parents, she already runs art clubs, after school clubs and holiday clubs in New Mills and beyond. Please book directly through Rachel, a letter has gone out today.

Times Tables

Many of our children do not 'Know' their times tables. These number facts are crucial for children to learn as they underpin many other skills and concepts. Our new times tables system allows children to learn at their own pace and to develop a secure grasp of each of the tables. This has started in some classes and will involve continuing this learning at home. More information will follow as the system becomes embedded.

Parent/ Carer Drop In

This will be held next Friday 4th July 9:00 – 10:30 am
Informal drop in for all parent carers to share experiences and discuss any concerns. Tea and coffee is provided and younger children are very welcome to attend. Dr. Claire Walsh, Chair of the Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice will join us at 9:30 to chat about how school and parent carers communicate best.

School Policy – Exceptional Circumstances

These regulations make it clear that Headteachers should not grant approval for any leave of absence during term-time including holidays unless there are exceptional circumstances. These regulations also state that holidays cannot be authorised retrospectively.

Any requests should be on an official school absence request form and handed into the office prior to any holiday/leave arrangements. You may be issued with a Penalty Notice should leave be taken which is not authorised. If unpaid this could lead to prosecution under section 444(1) of The Education Act 1996.

Diary Dates 2025 so far.....

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| <i>Wednesday 2 July</i> | - | <i>Mini first aid for Y5 & Y1</i> |
| <i>Thursday 3 July</i> | - | <i>Move up day for classes</i> |
| | - | <i>Y6 transition day to NMHS</i> |
| <i>Friday 4 July</i> | - | <i>Y6 transition day to NMHS day 2</i> |
| <i>Monday 7 July</i> | - | <i>Summer Disco School discos -</i> |
| | | <i>EYFS and KS1 15:30 to 16:30 and</i> |
| | | <i>KS2 16:45 to 17:45</i> |
| <i>Monday 7 July</i> | - | <i>Last swimming session</i> |
| <i>Monday 14 July</i> | - | <i>Dress rehearsal in school for Y5 & Y6 show</i> |
| | | <i>Y5 & Y6 show at 2pm</i> |
| <i>Wednesday 16 July</i> | - | <i>Y5 & Y6 show at 5pm</i> |
| | - | <i>Swimming gala</i> |
| <i>Monday 21 July</i> | - | <i>Y6 swimming session</i> |
| <i>Tuesday 22 July</i> | - | <i>Leavers assembly 9.15 am</i> |
| <i>Wednesday 23 July</i> | - | <i>Last day in school</i> |
| <i>Monday 8 September</i> | - | <i>First day in school for new academic term</i> |